

Patron—His Lordship Most Rev. Dr. Rodgers, Bishop of Killaloe

# *The Kilrush Operatic Society*

(AMATEUR)

Presents Balfe's

## THE BOHEMIAN GIRL

GUEST ARTISTES

*Estelle Valery*  
Soprano

*Brychan Powell*  
Tenor

GUEST ARTISTES

*Janet Howe*  
Mezzo-Soprano

*Dennis Noble*  
Baritone

At Mars Theatre, Kilrush

FOR EIGHT NIGHTS

**Sunday, May 8 to Sunday, May 15**

**TICKETS :**

Balcony - - 7/6 Bookable  
Parterre - - 5/6 Bookable  
Parterre - - 3/- Unresvd.

**RESERVATIONS :**

Please write, telephone or call  
OPERA BOOKING OFFICE  
c/o. Williams' Hotel, Kilrush  
Telephone 36

*Gala Patrons Performance--Monday. 9th May*

**Souvenir Programme = = = = One Shilling**



## From the Past

|                                              |                   |   |                                                            |
|----------------------------------------------|-------------------|---|------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1951<br>"STUDENT<br>PRINCE"                  | JOSEPHINE SCANLON | - | "Overhead the moon is beaming"                             |
|                                              | JOSIE O'DONNELL   | - | "Golden days in the sunshine of our<br>happy youth"        |
|                                              | DENIS EGAN        | - | "Deep in my heart dear, I have a<br>dream of you"          |
| 1952<br>"DESERT SONG"                        | JOHN DETTICK      | - | "If one flower grows alone in your garden"                 |
|                                              | JOSEPHINE SCANLON | - | "One alone, to be my own"                                  |
|                                              | JOSIE O'DONNELL   | - | "Blue Heaven, and you and I"                               |
| 1955<br>"NEW MOON"                           | PATRICIA BAIRD    | - | "Give me some men who are stout-hearted                    |
|                                              | THOMAS ROUND      | - | "Lover come back to me" [men]                              |
|                                              | KEVIN BARDEN      | - | "One kiss, one man to save it for"                         |
| 1956<br>"ROSE MARIE"                         | LISBETH LENNON    | - | "The Indian Love Call"                                     |
|                                              | THOMAS MILNE      | - | "On through the hail, like a pack of<br>angry wolves—"     |
| 1957<br>"MARITANA"                           | LISBETH LENNON    | - | "Scenes That Are Brightest"                                |
|                                              | JANET HOWE        | - | "Alas, Those Chimes"                                       |
|                                              | JOHN HAUXWELL     | - | "In happy moments day by day"                              |
|                                              | KENNETH MacDONALD | - | "Let me like a soldier fall"                               |
| 1958<br>"THE DAUGHTER<br>of the<br>REGIMENT" | MARGARET NISBETT  | - | "There they are, there they are"                           |
|                                              | ALMA CAESARI      | - | "None with the Twentieth on earth can<br>compare"          |
|                                              | RONALD LEWIS      | - | "Rat-a-plan, rat-a-plan, rat-a-plan"                       |
|                                              | KENNETH MacDONALD | - | "The Camp and the Battle, my joy & delight"                |
|                                              | JHANNA PETERS     | - | "What pleasure, what gladness, oh sing<br>a joyful strain" |

### 1959: "THE LILY OF KILLARNEY"

|                   |                                       |
|-------------------|---------------------------------------|
| VERONICA DUNNE    | "I'm Alone"                           |
| JANET HOWE        | "Tore Cregan will rise again"         |
| DENNIS NOBLE      | "I come I come my heart's<br>delight" |
| KENNETH MacDONALD | "Eily Mavourneen"                     |



## Estelle Valery

Studied at the Conservatorium in Sydney, and for nearly two years with Ninon Vallin in France. She sang, as principal Soprano, with the Carl Rosa Opera Company for five years, and has also sung at both Sadlers Wells and Covent Garden. She is also well known on the B.B.C. programmes.





## Brychan Powell

He is principal Tenor, Carl Rosa Opera Co., and has toured Great Britain with the Arts Council Opera Group, followed by two seasons with The Glyndebourne Opera Company. Has sung for Sadler's Wells and The Welsh National Opera Company, and at Cork, Waterford and Dublin Festivals. He appeared recently as guest artist with Sir John Barbirolli at The Harrogate Festival, and will again appear with The Halle Orchestra during their Centenary Celebrations.



## Janet Howe



Plays the part of the Gipsy Queen. She formerly played this part under the baton of Sir Thomas Beecham at Covent Garden, at his request. Has sung many Operatic performances under such well-known conductors as Ernest Ansermet, Sir John Barbirolli, Sir Adrian Boult, Rudolf Kempe, Hermann Scherchen and Sir Malcolm Sargent. She regularly gives T.V. Operatic performances. She previously played the parts, for our Society, of Lazarillo in "Maritana" and Mrs. Cregan in "The Lily of Killarney."

## Dennis Noble



Returns to Kilrush following his very successful appearance last year in the role of Danny Mann in "The Lily of Killarney." This internationally known Baritone has not only sung in Covent Garden, London, but in the leading Opera Houses in Paris, New York, Philadelphia, etc.



# The Bohemian Girl

AN OPERA IN THREE ACTS BY MICHAEL BALFE

Producer—MR. H. POWELL LLOYD, London.

*Characters in order of appearance :*

COUNT ARNHEIM (Governor of Presburg) ..... DENNIS NOBLE  
DEVILSHOOF (Chief of the Gipsies) ..... JACK CULLIGAN  
THADDEUS (A proscribed Pole) ..... BRYCHAN POWELL  
FLORESTEIN (Nephew of the Count) ..... GERRY CLANCY  
BUDA (Arline's Nurse) ..... EILY LYNCH  
ARLINE (As a child) ..... PATRICIA O'REILLY  
SERGEANT ..... JACK McGRATH  
QUEEN OF THE GIPSIES ..... JANET HOWE  
ARLINE (Daughter of the Count) ..... ESTELLE VALERY

*Quack Doctor:* Jack Keller      *Clowns:* B. Daly and M. Hassett

*Flunkeys:* K. Brislane and M. Halpin.

## Ladies of the Chorus

K. Doyle, B. Graham, P. Pryall, M. O'Dwyer, A. O'Reilly, R. Sherin, S. Walsh, M. Nagle.

GIPSIES: K. Hennessy, P. Buggle, O. Nash, A. Carey, K. Harrop, A. Maher, P. Enright, L. Shalloe, M. Dunleavy, C. Edwards, M. Flynn and B. Roughan.

PEASANTS: M. Downes, M. C. Cotter, M. Fennell, M. Ryan, M. Moynihan, A. Halloran, E. McCarthy, B. McCarthy, L. Cotter, S. Moody, C. Shannon, M. Breen, V. Kelly.

COURT LADIES: P. O'Dea, A. Lillis, S. Breen, M. Corry.

GIPSY DANCERS: K. Hennessy, M. Flynn, M. Dunleavy, L. Shalloe, A. Maher, K. Harrop, C. Edwards, B. Roughan.

PEASANT DANCERS: *Ladies*—C. Shannon, M. Fennell, M. Breen, M. C. Cotter. *Gentlemen*: J. Flynn, R. Doyle, T. Downes, T. Moloney.

## Gentlemen of the Chorus

HUNTSMEN: R. Doyle, T. Moloney, J. Flynn, T. Downes.

HUSSARS: P. J. O'Halloran, R. Moloney, F. Breen, J. J. Flynn, W. Hally, S. O'Shea, W. O'Looney, P. Shalloe, M. O'Mahony, J. Keller.

SOLDIERS: P. O'Malley, J. Liddane, P. J. Maher, M. Halpin, P. Cotter, J. Enright.

COURTIERS: J. Fennell and M. Moynihan. *D. O'Halloran. P. Mulqueen. J. Kelly.*

*Choreography:* MRS. DODO KELLY.

## Orchestra

*1st Violins:* Mr. F. O'Carroll, Miss Sile O'Tierney and Mr. Thomas Crotty. *2nd Violins:* Mrs. M. Roche, Mr. B. Cullinane. *Viola:* Miss Kathleen Rankin. *Cello:* Miss Kathleen Behan. *Bass:* Mr. P. Kavanagh. *Flute:* Miss E. Leeming. *Clarinet:* Army School of Music. *Oboe:* Mr. K. Kavanagh. *Horns:* Mr. T. Scollard and Mr. W. Moore. *Cornet:* Mr. D. Sutton and Army School of Music. *Timpani:* Mr. J. Bonnie.

*Conductor:* CAPT. R. B. KEALY, B.Mus., of the Band of the Southern Command.

*Directors of Choral Training:* Miss D. Mulqueeney, B.Com. H.Dip., Mr. J. Culligan.

*Stage Manager:* Laurence Rush. *Lighting:* G. C. Glynn. *Scenery:* Eileen Lynch. *Make-up:* J. A. Doyle. *Costumes:* Ladies Committee and Messrs Ging's of Dublin. *Teas for Cast:* Ladies Committee. *Stewards:* Mr. C. Moore. *Programmes:* Miss E. McMahon. *Ice Cream:* Mrs. J. Flynn.

*The action of the Opera takes place in the vicinity of the town of Presburg in Bohemia, in the days of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, and is in 3 Acts.*



# The Story of the Opera

## ACT I

COUNT ARNHEIM and his retainers—loyal subjects of the Austrian Emperor—unfurl and salute their national flag. They then depart for the chase and band of gipsies, headed by Devilshoof, their leader, come in. Suddenly, a young Polish Officer, Thaddeus, rushes into their midst. He is fleeing from the Austrian Soldiers and the gipsies agree to shelter him by disguising him as one of themselves. Thaddeus however retains his officer's commission which, he declares, to be his most precious possession. Loud shouts are heard and Florestein, the Count's foolish nephew, returns agitatedly with the tidings that Arline—child of Count Arnheim—is being attacked by a wild stag. Thaddeus rescues the child who has been wounded on the arm. The Count thanks Thaddeus and invites him to join the festivities. Thaddeus, however, refuses to pledge the health of the Austrian Emperor and there is indignation among the guests but the Count protects him while Devilshoof, who defends Thaddeus against the Austrians, is arrested and dragged off to prison. He escapes from the soldiers and kidnaps Arline.

## ACT II

Twelve years have elapsed since the young Arline has been kidnapped. On a moonlit night, the gipsy band, still led by Devilshoof, rob Florestein but the Gipsy Queen comes on the scene and commands that his property be restored to him. Devilshoof, however, retains a diamond medallion. Arline, reared among the gipsies, wakes from sleep and relates to Thaddeus a strange dream she has had. From him she learns the story of the wound on her arm. Arline and the Gipsy Queen are both in love with Thaddeus but he declares his preference for Arline. Devilshoof, quick to sense the jealousy of the Queen and still smarting from the rebuke of the previous night, compels the Queen to perform the marriage rites of the tribe over Arline and Thaddeus. The ceremony is witnessed by the gipsies and then all set out for the fair.

Here Arline attracts the admiration of Florestein but he is ignominiously rejected. Then he recognises his medallion on Arline's neck where it had cunningly been placed by the jealous Gipsy Queen. Arline is accused of having stolen the medallion. She proclaims her innocence and, rather than face trial, draws a dagger to kill herself. The Count seizes her arm and seeing the scar of a wound on it discovers that she is his long lost daughter.

## ACT III

Florestein pursues his suit with Arline but her heart is already pledged. Thaddeus has a secret interview with her at her father's castle and is discovered by the Count who spurns him. Thaddeus declares his own noble birth and proves it by presenting his officer's commission; he is accepted by the Count.

In the midst of the celebrations the Gipsy Queen and Devilshoof make their appearance. The Queen attempts to shoot Arline but Devilshoof diverts the shot towards herself and she falls. The festival proceeds to commemorate the happy fortune of *The Bohemian Girl*.



## Producer

### H. POWELL LLOYD

As an Actor at the "Old Vic" played Shakespeare and in many classical and modern plays. Later sang many operatic roles with Sadler's Wells. He has produced over fifty different Operas—Sadler's Wells, Carl Rosa, Welsh National Opera, Wexford Festival, Johannesburg Municipal Opera, Auckland (New Zealand) Festival, etc.

Produced The Lily of Killarney for us last season, and since then for Glasnevin M.S., at Olympia in Dublin—with almost the same cast—the first production of the Opera in Dublin for many years. Has been working mainly for Sadler's Wells Opera, recently producing among other Operas, Mozart's "Don Giovanni" and Beethoven's "Fidelio".



*Accompanists in Choral Training:*

MISS MARY O'KELLY, B.Sc., H.Dip., and

MRS. J. RYAN, A.L.C.M.



## Directors of Choral Training



**DYMPNA MULQUEENEY, B.Comm.**

Secondary Teacher at the Convent of Mercy, Kilrush. She comes from Kilfenora, and has been in Kilrush 4 years. This is her first occasion undertaking the choral training for the Society.



**JACK CULLIGAN**

Senior Official at Kilrush Post Office, Has taken leading parts in all the productions of the Society. Previously undertook the choral training for "Rose Marie." Plays the part of "Devilshoof."



## Gerry Clancy

Played his first major role with Society last year, as Myles na gCoppaleen in "The Lily of Killarney" with very great success.

The Glasnevin Musical Society invited him to play the same part in their recent production, where his singing was very well received by Dublin audiences.

## Chorus

The Bohemian Girl was selected this season, as it is an Opera with great scope for the chorus which has always been the corner stone of the Society.

About sixty members have regularly attended the rehearsals, many nights a week, over the past four months, and it is confidently expected that the fruits of their study will more than uphold the high reputation of the Society.

## Patrons

THE Society is deeply grateful to its numerous Patrons who each year, by their unfailing support enable it to undertake such ambitious productions. A list of Patrons, up to time of printing, for "The Bohemian Girl" is displayed at the Box Office of the Theatre. To those who may not have received our Patrons' Appeal we would advise that for a subscription of £1:

- (a) Patrons are entitled to one complimentary ticket; available for any one performance excluding the final night.
- (b) As Patron Members of the Society are entitled to attend the Annual General Meeting in July to elect incoming Committee.
- (c) By their generous support keep the Society in being which provides a worthwhile past-time for almost one hundred active members.

## Visitors to Kilrush

The Society would like to point out to visitors, who are travelling to Kilrush for our production, that the Coastal road along the Shannon from Ennis is now completed, except for a few hundred yards. Visitors should take the road from Ennis to Kildysart and thence Labasheeda. At Labasheeda turn inland for about three miles, and then branch off left at the bridge below Kilmurry-McMahon on the new tarred road to Knock. From Knock keep to the Coast, via the Colleen Bawn's grave at Burrane.

Half a mile after leaving the Coast, at Moyne, turn left at the four crosses for Cappa, via Aylevaroo.

While this drive is about 12 miles longer than the direct run from Ennis, it is a beautiful scenic drive in good weather along the Shannon Estuary.



# *Kilrush Operatic Society*

1959-60 SEASON

*President:* VERY REV. P. J. CANON VAUGHAN, P.P., V.F.

*Chairman:* DR. RICHARD COUNIHAN

*Vice-Chairman:* MR. J. CULLIGAN

*Hon. Secretary:* MR. C. D. GLYNN

*Hon. Treasurer:* MR. W. D. SAUNDERS

*Committee:* Mr J. Keller, Mr M. O'Sullivan, Mr J. Fennell, Mr L. Rush, Mr J. Clancy, Mrs R. Sherin, Miss E. Lynch, Miss M. O'Kelly, Miss D. Mulqueeny, Mr G. C. Glynn, Mr C. O'Carroll, Mr M. F. Howard, Mr. P O'Malley, Mr T. Sheehan, Rev. Brother McGeagh.

*Hon. Correspondence Secretary:* MISS MARGARET FENNELL



★ *The Kilrush Operatic Society acknowledges with thanks the ever-ready assistance of the Rev. Superior and Brothers of the Christian Brothers' School, Kilrush, who pioneered the Society, and have since kept it going by their constant and ever-willing help, and by the provision of the School and equipment for rehearsals.*

★ *The Society also thank all others who by their voluntary efforts have contributed to this Production.*